

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 IO-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 SCEM-02

INT-08 AID-20 DRC-01 /186 W
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R 041058Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5091

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JIDDA 4285

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SA

SUBJ: PRESS GIVES HEAVY PLAY TO NAZER VISIT WITH ACTING TREASURY
SECRETARY

SUMMARY: EXTENSIVE PRESS TREATMENT GIVEN TALKS OF CENTRAL
PLANNING ORGANIZATION (CPO) PRESIDENT HISHAM NAZER WITH
ACTING TREASURY SECRETARY SIMON. CPO HEAD WILL TRANSIT
JIDDA OCTOBER 5 EN ROUTE RIYADH WHERE HE IS EXPECTED REPORT
TO KING AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. END SUMMARY.

1. JIDDA PRESS OCTOBER 4 USED BANNER-HEADLINE TREATMENT IN
REPORTING ON THREE-HOUR MEETING BETWEEN ACTING TREASURY SECRETARY
SIMON AND CPO PRESIDENT HISHAM NAZER. AL-MADINA SAID AMERICA
REALIZES FULLY NECESSITY OF IMPROVING POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE IN
MIDDLE EAST AND IS GIVING THIS MATTER TOP PRIORITY. HEADLINE
ADDED THAT U.S. ALSO INTERESTED IN PLACING ON A BASIS OF
EQUALITY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO STATES.

2. STORY ADDED THAT NAZER MET WITH SIMON FOR THREE HOURS AND
NOTED THAT ACTING TREASURY SECRETARY WAS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF
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THE U.S. PETROLEUM POLICY COMMITTEE. MR. SIMON MADE IT

CLEAR TO SHAIKH NAZER THAT THE U.S. FEELS THE NEED FOR IMPROVING POLITICAL CLIMATE IN THE M.E. AND THAT THIS MATTER IS OF TOP PRIORITY TO THE U.S. THE U.S. WAS DIRECTING SERIOUS ATTENTION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN COOPERATING WITH THE KINGDOM IN REALIZING HER GOALS OF DIVERSIFYING HER ECONOMY AND SOURCES OF INCOME. SIMON IS REPORTED AS HAVING SAID HE HOPED THAT ANY DISPUTE BETWEEN U.S. AND SAUDI ARABIA WOULD BE SETTLED THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP EXISTING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. ARTICLE ENDS WITH NOTE THAT SHAIKH NAZER WILL BE ARRIVING OCTOBER 5 IN JIDDA AFTER HAVING GIVEN SEVERAL LECTURES IN U.S. AND HAVING MET A NUMBER OF OTHER AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND BUSINESSMEN.

3. SOURCE IN CPO INFORMS US THAT NAZER IS EXPECTED TO TRANSIT JIDDA AND PLANS MAKE REPORT TO KING AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SOONEST IN RIYADH.
HORAN

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